

~~SECRET~~PSD/NPIC-55/67
21 March 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Development Staff, NPIC

ATTENTION:

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THROUGH: Chief, Production Services Division, NPIC

SUBJECT: Materials Handling Study

1. This is in reference to your request to evaluate seven proposals from companies who responded with their concepts for pursuing a materials handling study. In studying the proposals, Information Control and Film Library Branch concerned itself primarily with the contractors' approach to the problems in imagery storage and transportation. All of the proposals uniformly gave short shrift to (in favor of long dissertations on film chips) the main and continuing problem of this Branch, roll film.

2. This Branch exists with the purgatorial problem of handling and controlling roll film while the film chip issue is being touted as the solution. Since the substitution of chips for rolls is a question yet to be decided, what do we do to alleviate the control and handling problem caused by the hundreds of rolls of film received monthly from SE Asia, or the approximately 50,000 rolls now in the film library? That situation would still exist even if NPIC went to chips on the very next mission. Therefore, it was hoped that the contractors replying to your invitation for proposals would offer or indicate a practical solution to the problem at hand.

3. Most of the contractors seemed thorough in their approach to the presentation of their proposals to study the entire material handling problem at NPIC. However, due to their equally frustrating hands-off approach to the problem of roll film, we lean toward the presentation of as being better able to understand the problems faced by this Branch. This decision is offered not because approach were any different from the others, but because each will have technical representatives who are familiar with the film library situation.

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Chief
Information Control & Film Library Branch, PSD

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification